GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:15
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2009
FOREIGNERS IN VOTER LISTS
Singh Shri Uday

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Pakistani and Bangladeshi nationals have been enrolled in the voter lists in various States:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to delete their names from the voter lists?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISRTY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) to (c): The Election Commission of India has intimated that it does not have the information as to whether a large number of Bangladeshi or Pakistani nationals have managed to enroll themselves as voters in any StateAJT in the country.No foreign national is eligible to be registered as voter in India. The electoral rolls for the territorial Assembly Constituencies are prepared under the superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission of India under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and the Registration of Electors Rules, l960. As per these provisions only Indian citizens are eligible for inclusion in the electoral roll. However, sometimes during intensive revision, summary revision or continuous revision,names of some ineligible persons who do not fulfill the qualification of Indian citizenship find their way into the electoral roll due to false information pi, ,ided by the individuals. Whenever such cases of wrongful inclusion come to the notice of the Electoral Registration authorities,immediate action is taken to remove such names from the electoral rolls.

In the State of Assam,the electors whose citizenship is either doubtful or disputed, their cases are referred to the appropriate authorities for determining their citizenship status. Their names are, however, not deleted from the electoral roil but they are not allowed to cast their vote till their cases are favourably disposed of by the appropriate authorities.These electors are called `D` voters and letter `D` is marked against their entries in the electoral rolls to identify them.